

25X1

Approved For Release 2004/06/29 : CIA-RDP85T00875R000700010003-7

Approved For Release 2004/06/29 : CIA-RDP85T00875R000700010003-7

**Top Secret**

25X1



## *Cease-Fire Developments*

FERAC DIV  
APR 23 10 11 AM '73

**Top Secret**

22

25X1

21 April 1973



25X1

Approved For Release 2004/06/29 : CIA-RDP85T00875R000700010003-7

Approved For Release 2004/06/29 : CIA-RDP85T00875R000700010003-7

5X1

21 April 1973

CEASE-FIRE DEVELOPMENTS

Page

CAMBODIA

1

The Military Situation  
Mekong Resupply Convoy

SOUTH VIETNAM

2

Tran Van Tra Heading south  
Viet Cong Military Command Restructured

25X1

LAOS

4

The Military Situation  
Communists Repairing Airfields

i

CAMBODIAThe Military Situation

Elements of the government brigade forced out of Siem Reap along Route 2 south of Phnom Penh on 20 April have taken up defensive positions two miles from that village. An armored squadron and additional troop reinforcements have been sent to the Siem Reap area.

25X1

25X1

Communist troops continue to probe and harass government defensive positions near Kampot and have isolated a small government position some four miles southeast of that city. With the arrival of more reinforcements, Kampot's garrison now consists of about 2,500 troops.

Route 4 is again open to truck traffic. A 250-vehicle convoy arrived in Phnom Penh on 21 April over the highway from the port of Kompona Som. No incidents were reported en route.

Status of the Mekong Resupply Convoy

25X1

The next Mekong River resupply convoy is still scheduled to sail for Phnom Penh on 23 April. A total of nine ships, including six POL tankers, are in the convoy. As of 21 April, Phnom Penh was down to about a two-day supply of gasoline and diesel fuel.

25X1

21 April 1973

-1-

25X1

SOUTH VIETNAM

25X1

Tran Van Tra Returning to the South

Lieutenant General Tran Van Tra, the head of the Viet Cong military delegation in Saigon, has "successfully concluded" the stay in North Vietnam that began in late March, according to Hanoi's domestic service. Tra left South Vietnam shortly before the demise of the Four-Party Joint Military Commission, and his return could indicate that Hanoi has decided on the line to be taken by the Communist side in the Two-Party Commission, which has been deadlocked since its inception. There is no indication as to the date of Tra's return to Saigon.

25X1

Viet Cong Restructure Top Military Command

The Viet Cong apparently have consolidated major elements serving their "Liberation Army" under

21 April 1973

-2-

25X1

one headquarters.

25X1

consolidation probably began early last December, about the time that the major military and political command units of COSVN were first detected moving back into South Vietnam from Cambodia. It is a logical step in the re-establishment of the COSVN complex in northeastern Tay Ninh Province, and is another indication that the Communists are concerned with regularizing their previously far-flung political and military command structure.

25X1

25X1

25X1

21 April 1973

-3-

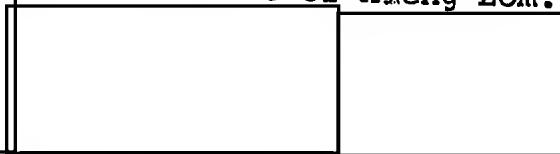
25X1

LAOSThe Military Situation

The only noteworthy fighting on 20 April occurred in remote Sayaboury Province where a Communist attack forced a government company from positions some 20 miles northwest of Xieng Lom.

25X1

25X1

Communists Repairing Airfields

repai[redacted] work is underway in the eastern panhandle on the long-disused airstrip at Tchepone, in the infiltration corridor some 35 miles west of Khe Sanh, South Vietnam.

[redacted] abandoned airfield near Khang Khay, on the northeastern Plaine des Jarres, is also being repaired. Earlier this year, the Communists completed repairs on an airstrip at Pathet Lao headquarters at Sam Neua and began constructing another landing strip nearby.

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

21 April 1973

-4-